52
Tavistock Square,
London, w.c.1.
Telephone : Museum 2621.

My dear Vita — only it ought to be all execration —

I asked you to LEND me M.B — Now you GIVE him. Very well — I'll never ask you for so much as the loan of a boot-button again.

Nevertheless, your present was perfectly timed — All Friday I was sick without stopping

(my own fault - I refused to believe the doctor
who said it would stop if I ate a
mutton chop - when I did I was
cured instantly) but - by 6 P.M.
I was almost extinct with the horror
& then your present came: I ate
my chop, revived, & read till I
fell asleep. Nothing could have
suited better. Indeed I think
he's very good — so demure,
& ~~yet~~ sprightly.

Only your character

NYPL

remains irretrievably damned

I agree about the horror of one hours talk – I would be for less boring, as half an hours waiting is more effort than 2.

Well, at present it all I can get.

As for coming to you, I should really like it – this is the greatest compliment I can pay you – & it is very good of you to think of it. Only at present I can't make the dr. pay when I can get up, when so away, or any thing.

So may I leave it? only you

must plan independently.

L. likes your poem, & is printing it. I like it – I'll tell you why, if you can face another hours torture. You did not tire me; it was enchanting: & next time I'm in arrange for some menu for you –

NYPL

My love to Harold. Beg him not to drop me when he becomes an Ambassador.

V V W.

Think I didn't give you your cue – how – to bloody the bridge –

HAMILL & BARKER 2/5/62

I thought you looked tired.
I hope you're not very bothered.

Monks Horne,
Redmell.

Will you come on Wednesday[2] to
lunch at 1[2]? ~~Lunt~~ Leonard
will be in London for the day.
Would you like me to ask Clive[2].
If so, let me know. Sleep night.
You'll be even more
uncomfortable than usual.
I say, please bring 2
bottles wine (not cider)
which I want to BUY.
Can't get any.
If Thursday suits you better,
come Thursday.
Only to let me know.
Tommie talking.
Yrs VW.

Monks House
Rodmell.

Sunday.

Yes – that will be perfect. I think I shall be alone on Wednesday – couldn't you come early & enjoy a scrambly lunch?

The title seems very good – far the best. I'm longing, in spite of having read 3 MSS, to read yours – a great testimony to you. I'm comprehensive that you should have worked so hard – seven hours a day! My God!

Raymond here. You have been praised almost without stopping:

"There's no one I should mind finding me out so much as Vita" says Raymond "then it's your standing

gorgeous in emeralds: then Knowing Herman &
so on — all making you so brilliant I shall
be shy for 15 minutes & a ½ precisely
at seeing you.

Poor Puffy had a tray of chicken
on top of her, so is being washed.
You have saved my life by explaining
how to buy night gowns: I have 2:
Now, how does one make one's
hair stay firm after washing?
& about chemises?

VW.

Damn you for going to Normandy — I
have just refused to stay with Ethel
Sands, in order to walk

But what's the use of writing
words that one should rush to cross the
Channel? — at the moment the
thing I long for: Shall we do it.

Sept. 2.

Monks House
Rodmell Sept 15th

Virginia only just sent the second batch of proofs, which I have swallowed at a gulp. Yes — I think it's awfully good. I kept saying 'How I should like to know this woman!' & then thinking 'But I do', & then 'No, I don't — not altogether the woman who writes this'. I didn't know the extent of your subtleties. Here's a brave attitude — Emerald Uttercase, Raymond subjugated — that's American enough. but not the sly, brooding thinking evading one. The whole book is full of nooks & corners which I enjoy

Exploring Sometimes one wants a
~~Some~~ Candle in one hand though. That
my only criticism — you've left (
daresay in haste) one or two dangling
ends places. It's a deliberate
method & one that takes the very skin
of your shake, this dallying discursive
one. The danger is that one may
let the discursion float off a little too
high in the air. But on the
main I think you've hit off
perfectly — the problem being to
keep moving (which you do, I'm
sure) & yet
read ~~the~~ half the book at a
sitting I was drawn on by the
last words, which, emphatically
are the last words) & yet
somehow dally & encircle this
& that & enclose them all in the one

much. As I say, I did not altogether
know Towers resources. Indeed,
it is odd that now, having read him, I have
picked up a good many things I do find
mean in private life. What are they,
I wonder, the very intimate things, one
says in print? There's a whole family
of them. It's the proof, I take, of
being a writer, that one exposes them in print only,
& you do here; more here than anywhere,
I think, unless it's in the Land, & Seducers.
It's the very subject for you. And
how did you do it, so fast & free?
I daresay that was the heaven sent
way of doing it, & the reason why
the whole book has this fresh, direct
unfaded way about it; this sense
that it was of being away, travelling,
not particularly in any particular

~~for~~ Geographical Country: but travelling far away. Now I see, you'll be glad to hear, what a great affair going to Persia is. By the way, how my mouth watered over the casual paragraph about a stark of dromedaries & racehorses in the Ukraine before the war. Please tell me more.

Leonard is still beginning tonight. I say, it very very good of you to have let us have it here I am, having to face my husband this stuffing evening, on his return from London with the conference, not that I've been dreaded, but Gazzyle has. I left the door open. Oh my God, how can I face it! Then I've put my finger out, fallen on my chair & cut it, & wear a bandage.

NYPL

Must one have a puppy of one's own & is merely with a dog twice one's size & is merely walk over 60 ℓ?

Puppy well. VW.

Is the Land out ℓ.

Monks shouse Rodmell Lewes

21st Sept.

M y dear Vita,

(this is typewriter writing) But when are you coming to fetch your things? Flease let me know. This week? I shall be alone Thursday 23rd. Next week? Only Mrs Bartholomew to cook. Bed at your service any time. Week after we return.

Hope to bring out book in early Oct. Anuym Any names to send cards to? If so please let me have them. What is your lecture about? QWhen? Where? May I come? Will Clap. Grizzle seduced again. Typewriter awfylly on the spot. No more at present

from your s very Virginia Woolf.
(Mrs Woolf.)

Mxxx The Non.
Mrs Harold Nicolson
Long Bard
Weald Sevenoaks Kent.